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PRIME MINISTER

GUN CONTROL

The heads of Government around Australia today all agreed to move quickly to implement tougher gun laws throughout the Nation.

The Premiers agreed to move expeditiously to implement in full the resolutions from the Australasian Police Ministers' Council in May.

The first part of a public information campaign begins in the media tomorrow with advertisements outlining which weapons are to be banned, which ones will be restricted in their use and which ones will not be touched. This information campaign will continue for some time.

The Commonwealth, State and Territory leaders are determined to take the agreed steps to ensure that Australia becomes a safer country.

The resolution on gun control which was based on today's COAG meeting was as follows:

All jurisdictions would continue to move expeditiously to implement in full the resolutions by the Australasian Police Ministers' Council on 10 May 1996 on firearms control, including a twelve month amnesty and compensation scheme to encourage surrender of licensed and unlicensed firearms and the establishment of a system for the effective nationwide registration of all firearms.

CANBERRA
14 June 1996